

October 26, 2011

Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing you today as a General Federation of Women's Club (GFWC) of North Carolina Past President and as an International Past President of GFWC, requesting that you support the proposed merger between AT&T and T-Mobile USA because it will help address the literacy problems that our state and nation face.

GFWC-NC is a volunteer organization that was created more than 100 years ago, and members are dedicated to the improvement of our communities. Our members contribute thousands of hours of volunteer service and more than \$1 million to North Carolina each year.

In 2011 and 2012, our state federation is focused on literacy. We hope to give 75,000 volunteer hours to schools in our state. Through our many hours of volunteer work thus far, we have learned just how important broadband service is to education. Today's students must be proficient at using computers, the Internet and a myriad of applications in order to succeed in college and careers. Unfortunately, not all students have access to broadband technology, which is necessary in order to take full advantage of the Internet for research, studies and learning.

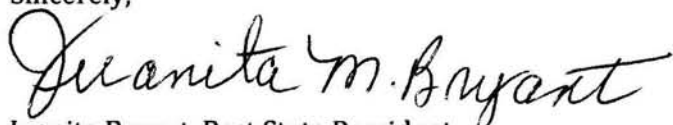
In urban areas, the proliferation of mobile devices that use the Internet has left many with spotty and slow coverage. In rural areas, broadband connectivity may not be available at all.

The AT&T/T-Mobile USA merger would result in an expanded wireless broadband network that would reach virtually the entire state with high-speed service. This coverage would include rural areas and small communities, connecting over 97 percent of the U.S. population to AT&T's advanced wireless network.

Of course, wireless broadband's benefits would stretch well beyond education, supporting businesses as well as families. It would untether millions, allowing them to learn and be productive wherever they're located.

I hope you will recognize the educational benefits, in particular, that this merger would enable. These benefits should carry substantial weight as you consider this transaction, which I believe you should promptly approve.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Juanita M. Bryant". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Juanita Bryant, Past State President  
General Federation of Women's Clubs of North Carolina

CC:

Chairman Julius Genachowski  
Commissioner Robert McDowell  
Commissioner Michael Copps  
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn